

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-10 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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R 200729Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5321

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS CANBERRA 1758

GENEVA FOR GATT, MTN AND TSB DELS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, AS

SUBJ: AUSTRALIAN TRADE POLICY

REF: CANBERRA 1592

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED LETTER ADDRESSED TO E/C
COUNSELOR FROM J.T. FOGARTY, FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
DEPT. OF OVERSEAS TRADE, GIVING OECD DATA REFERRED TO
IN PARA. 5 REFTEL. AS SAME DATA WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE
ADDUCED BY GOA DELS DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE IN GATT, OECD
FORA, TEXT IS TRANSMITTED IN ITS ENTIRETY.

2. QTE WHEN BILL HARROP PRESENTED AID MEMOIRE REGARDING
AUSTRALIAN IMPORT POLICY TO MR. BOWEN THE OTHER DAY, I
QUOTED FIGURES FOR COMPARATIVE GROWTH RATES IN IMPORTS
FOR AUSTRALIA AND OECD AS A WHOLE.

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QTE MR. BOWEN ASKED ME TO MAKE THESE AVAILABLE TO YOU.

THE FIGURES WERE OBTAINED FROM OECD PUBLICATION
"ECONOMIC OUTLOOK" NO. 16 OF DECEMBER 1974, PARTICULARLY
TABLES NOS. 30 AND 32. THESE SHOW THAT WHILST IMPORTS
INTO AUSTRALIA "BY VOLUME" INCREASED BY 28 PCT. IN 1973
AND 1974, THE COMPARATIVE INCREASE FOR OECD AS A WHOLE
WAS ONLY 12.1 PCT. AND 2 PCT. RESPECTIVELY.

QTE AS TO TEXTILE PRODUCTS, IMPORTS OF THESE WERE OF
ORDER OF \$A750 M. IN 1973/74. AT TIME THAT THE TEXTILE
AUTHORITY BROUGHT DOWN IT FIRST REPORT ON APPAREL ON
5 JULY 1974, THERE WERE NO RESTRAINTS ON THE IMPORT OF
TEXTILE PRODUCTS INTO AUSTRALIA. NEGOTIATIONS WE
CONDUCTED IN JULY/AUGUST AS A RESULT OF THE TEXTILE
AUTHORITY'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENT WERE CONCERNED
WITH PRODUCTS WHICH REPRESENTED ABOUT 7 PCT. OF OUR TOTAL
IMPORTS IN THESE PRODUCTS IN 1973/74.

QTE MORE RECENT ACTIONS WITH RESPECT TO IMPORTS OF TEXTILE
PRODUCTS BY WAY OF RESTRAINT ARRANGEMENTS, IMPORT CONTROLS
AND TARIFF QUOTAS HAS AFFECTED A WIDER RANGE OF THESE
PRODUCTS. NEVERTHELESS, VEN WITH THE PPLICATION OF THESE
MEASURES ABOUT 80 PCT. OF IMPORTS OF THESE GOODS (BASED ON
1973/74 FIGURES) ARE UNAFFECTED. END QTE.

3.RESPONSE MENTIONED PARA. 7 REFTEL TO OUR AIDE-MEMOIRE
STILL NOT RECEIVED.
HARROP

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CANBER01758
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750098-0590
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750333/aaaabdsu.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 CANBERRA 1592
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUN 2003 by JonesKG>; APPROVED <23 FEB 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AUSTRALIAN TRADE POLICY
TAGS: ETRD, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006